Filing Date: December 11, 1998

Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CONTROLLING IMAGE TRANSPARENCY

Page 2 D.t.: 884.055US1

6.[Amended]. A system comprising:

a display; and

an image of an object projected on the display, where the transparency of the image is modulated as a function of an angle of incidence of a vector normal to a viewing surface, with the surface of the object[The system of claim 5], wherein the modulating function comprises a cosine function.

7.[Amended] A system comprising:

a display; and

an image of an object projected on the display, where the transparency of the image is modulated as a function of an angle of incidence of a vector, normal to a viewing surface, with the surface of the object[The system of claim 5], wherein the modulating function comprises a linear function.

8.[Amended] A system comprising:

a display; and

an image of an object projected on the display, where the transparency of the image is modulated as a function of an angle of incidence of a vector, normal to a viewing surface, with the surface of the object[The system of claim 5], wherein the modulating function comprises a non-linear function.

11.[Amended] A computer comprising:

a processor;

a computer-readable medium; and

a computer program capable of being executed from the computer-readable medium by the processor and modulating the transparency of an image as a function of an angle of incidence of a vector normal to a viewing surface at a surface of an object[The computer of claim 10], wherein the computer-readable medium comprises a memory.

PS

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111

Serial Number: 09/210,055

Filing Date: December 11, 1998

Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CONTROLLING IMAGE TRANSPARENCY

Page 3 D.t.: 884.055US1

12.[Amended] A computer comprising:

a processor;

a computer-readable medium; and

a computer program capable of being executed from the computer-readable medium by the processor and modulating the transparency of an image as a function of an angle of incidence of a vector normal to a viewing surface at a surface of an object [The computer of claim 10], wherein the modulating function comprises a cosine function.

13.[Amended] A computer comprising:

a processor;

a computer-readable medium; and

a computer program capable of being executed from the computer-readable medium by the processor and modulating the transparency of an image as a function of an angle of incidence of a vector normal to a viewing surface at a surface of an object[The computer of claim 10], wherein the modulating function comprises a linear function.

14.[Amended] A computer comprising:

a processor;

a computer-readable medium; and

a computer program capable of being executed from the computer-readable medium by the processor and modulating the transparency of an image as a function of an angle of incidence of a vector normal to a viewing surface at a surface of an object[The computer of claim 10], wherein the modulating function comprises a non-linear function.

15.[Amended] A computer comprising:

a processor;

a computer-readable medium; and

a computer program capable of being executed from the computer-readable medium by the processor and modulating the transparency of an image as a function of an angle of incidence



METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CONTROLLING IMAGE TRANSPARENCY

of a vector normal to a viewing surface at a surface of an object [The computer of claim 10], wherein the computer-readable medium comprises a storage device.

17.[Amended] A method for generating a transparency factor for an image of an object, the method comprising:

selecting a viewing surface;

determining an angle of incidence created by a vector normal to the viewing surface and the object surface; and

calculating the transparency factor from the angle of incidence [The method of claim 16, wherein calculating the transparency factor from the angle of incidence comprises the step of:] comprising:

calculating a cosine of the angle of incidence.

18.[Amended] A method for generating & transparency factor for an image of an object, the method comprising:

selecting a viewing surface;

determining an angle of incidence created by a vector normal to the viewing surface and the object surface; and

calculating the transparency factor from the angle of incidence [The method of claim 16, wherein calculating the transparency factor from the angle of incidence comprises the step of: comprising:

calculating a linear function of the angle of incidence.

19.[Amended] A method for generating a transparency factor for an image of an object, the method comprising:

selecting a viewing surface;

determining an angle of incidence created by a vector normal to the viewing surface and the object surface; and